

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**MARCH 24, 2004**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**                      **Chuck Watkins, Chairman**  
                                                     **Dr. George Patton, Vice Chairman**  
                                                     **Chris Cofty**  
                                                     **Tony Parrott**  
                                                     **Chris Venice**

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**              **Bill McNally**  
                                                     **Jim Mallett**

**STAFF PRESENT:**                      **Russell Ray**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Watkins at 8:00 A.M.

**I.      APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON MARCH 10, 2004.**

Tony Parrott made the motion and Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 10, 2004. There was no opposition.

**II.     PRESSURE IMPROVEMENTS - HIGHWAY 74 NORTH.**

No report on this item.

**III.    LEGISLATIVE CHANGES FOR WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.**

Russell Ray reported he attended the public meeting two weeks ago. The meeting was not a formal hearing, but they wanted to get feedback from the general population. A third of the audience was golf courses (turf management), about four utilities, including Fayette County, and other interest. They were taking comments outside the meeting, also. He stated they took the information to review and he thinks we will see some type of changes. He does not know exactly what they will be, but the indication was that they would come up with something that would have more flexibility. Even then, it would still be on a regional basis. It did not look like they will leave it just like it is.

Mr. Parrott commented there will be a public hearing after the Board of Department of Natural Resources meets again. There will be a formal public hearing for comments. At that point, there is not as much flexibility. Mr. Ray added they will take what they have at this time and rewrite it, then get approval from the Board and go out for an official hearing. Once that is done, they will make the rule.

Chairman Watkins asked if they are sticking to the schedule of no watering on Friday. Mr. Ray used Gainesville as an example. They do not like Friday, they want something middle week. That is a different scenario, but it is a good example of where just one way doesn't always work. They have all the poultry industry in Gainesville. Their water demand is high during the week. Their issue is not so much the weekend. He stated he thinks we will see some flexibility.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION OF OUR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

Mr. Parrott explained that it is budget time, and part of this is CIP for the Water System. He presented moving the projects forward a year. Five items are on the list, Lake McIntosh, two water tanks, water line extension and South Fayette Plant expansion. He went on to say the growth in the southern part of the County is such that to put a two million gallon tank at either location would be difficult for the system to keep the water recycled. Chlorine residual would drop down, and the tank would have to be drained. There is not enough water usage to justify installing either one of the tanks at this time. The area is still growing, overall for the counties proposed 240,000 people they fit in for the overall plan, just not this next fiscal year.

Mr. Parrott commented the amount for Lake McIntosh construction is an estimate Mr. Mallett did several years ago. Mr. Mallett stated the estimate is from 1989. Since that time a lot of things have changed. The road that is planned may affect the construction, mitigation ratios have gone up, and DNR Safe Dams have changed regulations for spillway design. The cost of Lake McIntosh will probably be \$10,000,000 or more.

Mr. McNally suggested Mr. Mallett look at the figures to see if they need to be updated. Chairman Watkins asked about cutting the timber on Lake McIntosh. Mr. McNally stated he would check into it.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:15 A.M.

---

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 14th day of April, 2004.

---

Lisa McElwaney